

Please enter the following new claim set in place of the pending claims.

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1. (Thrice Amended) An isolated cDNA or recombinant nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid encoding a DRG11 protein, wherein said nucleic acid encoding a DRG11 protein hybridizes under high stringency conditions to a complement of a nucleic acid molecule having a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, and wherein said DRG11 protein is characterized by its natural expression in sensory neurons and dorsal horn neurons of the spinal cord and wherein its natural expression is absent in non-neuronal cells, sympathetic neurons and ventricular neurons of the spinal cord.

2. (Twice Amended) An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1 encoding the amino acid sequence depicted in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:2).

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4. (Twice Amended) An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1 comprising the nucleic acid depicted in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:1).

5. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1 operably linked to an expression vector comprising transcriptional and translational regulatory DNA.

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6. A host cell transformed with an expression vector according to claim 5.

7. (Amended) A method of producing a DRG11 protein comprising:

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- culturing a host cell transformed with an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid according to claim 1; and
- expressing said nucleic acid to produce a DRG11 protein.